



HR1218

LRB097 22790 KTG 71575 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In 1996 President Bill Clinton signed bipartisan
3 welfare reforms which sought to reduce welfare dependence by
4 encouraging welfare recipients to move from welfare to work;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The 1996 reform created the Temporary Assistance
7 for Needy Families (TANF) program which made promoting work a
8 central focus of each state's efforts to assist low-income
9 parents in achieving self-sufficiency; and

10 WHEREAS, The 1996 reform resulted in a reduction in child
11 poverty, a reduction in welfare dependency, and an increase in
12 the employment and earnings of single mothers; and

13 WHEREAS, On July 12, 2012 the U. S. Department of Health
14 and Human Services announced that it is willing to waive
15 federal work requirements for recipients of aid under the TANF
16 program; and

17 WHEREAS, The decision to offer states waiver opportunities
18 was made without any prior Obama Administration legislative
19 proposal or consultation with Congress; and

20 WHEREAS, Legislation has been introduced in Congress to

1 repeal the actions by the U.S. Department of Health and Human
2 Services and to make it clear that states do not have the
3 authority to seek, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human
4 Services does not have the authority to grant, waivers of work
5 requirements under the TANF program; and

6 WHEREAS, Illinois law requires the Department of Human
7 Services to advise every applicant for and recipient of aid
8 under the TANF program of the requirement that all recipients
9 move toward self-sufficiency and the value and benefits of
10 employment; and

11 WHEREAS, The Illinois Administrative Code establishes
12 specific work requirements for TANF recipients; therefore, be
13 it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
15 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
16 we oppose any efforts to weaken the TANF work requirements; and
17 be it further

18 RESOLVED, That we urge the Governor and the Secretary of
19 the Department of Human Services to not seek a waiver of the
20 TANF work requirements from the U.S. Department of Health and
21 Human Services; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
2 delivered to the Governor and the Secretary of the Department
3 of Human Services.